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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT**COUNTRY** Czechoslovakia**SUBJECT** Recent Political Developments**DIST.** 15 January 1948**PAGES** 2**SUPPLEMENT****DISTRIBUTION**

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STATE	WAR	NAVY	JUSTICE

1. Petr Zenkl, Chairman of the National Socialist Party, and Bohumil Lausman, Chairman of the Social Democratic Party, recently discussed the possibility of having their two parties cooperate in an effort to force elections in industry. According to the plan, elections would be held first in the smaller industries, and later in the larger ones. Both Zenkl and Lausman feel that the election results would give them sufficient support to break the present Communist domination of the URO (Central Trade Union Council). 50X1-HUM

2. The Czechoslovak plan that the Germans in Hungary be removed to the Soviet Zone of Germany to make room for the Hungarian minorities arriving from Slovakia may meet with some opposition from the other Central European countries, and perhaps from the USSR. A note to Belgrade from the Yugoslav ambassador in Budapest has suggested that Yugoslavia take action against the Czechoslovak attempt to remove the Hungarian minorities. Such a removal, the ambassador stated, would be contrary to the spirit of the Cominform, create bad feelings between the participating countries, and make the formation of a Slavonic bloc impossible. In addition to counter-action by the Yugoslav Government, the ambassador requested that his note be transmitted to Moscow. 50X1-HUM

3. President Benes has informed leading members of the National Socialist Party that he will oppose publicly any proposal to change the present treaty framework in Central Europe. He had in mind the current trend toward a system of interlocking bi-lateral treaties among Central European countries without support or commitments from the USSR. Benes is fully aware of the approaching crisis and is very active behind the scenes. 50X1-HUM

Comments: National Socialist apprehension over the broadening of the "mutual assistance" clause in the collaboration treaties between the Soviet satellite states to cover attack from any quarter.

4. In talks with Benes, Mgr. Sramek, Chairman of the People's Party, stated that he will support Benes to the fullest when the situation breaks in

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Czechoslovakia and, if necessary, he will leave the country and continue to fight from the outside. Sramek is determined to get Dr. Adolf Prochazka, Minister for Public Health in the Cabinet, out of the People's Party and refuses to discuss the question with anyone.

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